



# APTA Sustainability Initiatives



# The goals

- Define sustainability for the public transportation industry
- Establish common goals and actions
- Share best practices
- Demonstrate transit's contribution to sustainability



# Sustainability Committee

- Consists of business and agency members involved with sustainability issues
- Provides oversight and input into APTA-wide sustainability efforts
  - Sustainability Commitment Subcommittee
- Serves as a venue for peer exchange, planning, and policy input
- Meets twice yearly

# Sustainability Committee – Work Plan



- Outreach
  - Webinars on work products
  - Sustainability Corner articles in *Passenger Transport*
  - Redesign of website to highlight members' initiatives
- APTA Sustainability and Urban Design Standards (SUDS)
- APTA Sustainability Commitment
- Sustainable Procurement
  - Collaboration with procurement group
- Maximizing employee involvement and engagement
- Partnerships and coalition building



# APTA Sustainability Commitment

- Focus on **internal processes and actions**
- Open and relevant to **all APTA members**
- **Voluntary** but calls for a large majority of APTA members to sign on
- Allows for **continuous improvement**
- Currently has 106 signatories
  - 4 Gold, 1 Silver, 3 Bronze



# APTA Sustainability Commitment



- Make sustainability a part of strategic objectives
- Identify a sustainability champion
- Establish an outreach program on sustainability for all staff
- Establish baseline measurements (e.g. energy, water use, recycling)







# APTA Sustainability Commitment – Case Studies

- **SEPTA** (Philadelphia, PA) integrated sustainability into its strategic objectives with its plan: “Sep-tainable: The Route to Regional Sustainability”
- **L.A. Metro** and **Foothill Transit** (West Covina, California) implemented comprehensive Environmental Management Systems (EMS) across their agencies. For **L.A. Metro**, this has included a 38% reduction in air pollutant emissions since 2008.
- **Intercity Transit** (Olympia, WA) named a sustainability champion, established a cross-departmental sustainability committee, and has budgeted for a dedicated Environmental and Sustainability Coordinator in its 2012 budget.





# APTA Sustainability Commitment – Recognition

- Measureable reductions:
  - water usage
  - criteria air pollutant emissions
  - GHG emissions, savings
  - energy use
  - recycling levels/waste
  - operating expense
  - unlinked passenger trips per capita in service area
  - vehicle miles traveled per capita in service area

## Action items:

Achievements made in the short- to medium-term (1-3 years) with a view to achieving economic, environmental and social sustainability objectives.

## Stretch goals:

Additional longer-term programmatic and process goals (4-6 years) that challenge an organizations to make a very significant difference in the way they function in view of meeting sustainability criteria.





# APTA Sustainability Commitment – Recognition

AMERICAN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION



Action items		Reductions per indicator		Stretch goals	
Require	Commit to	Require	Commit to	Require	Commit to
5 ✓	+5		2 at 2%		



10 ✓	+10	2 at 2% ✓	5% at 2 +2% at 2		3
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20 ✓	+20	2 at 5% ✓ 2 at 2% ✓	2 at 10% 2 at 5% +all other at 2%	3 ✓	+3
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40 ✓		2 at 10% ✓ 2 at 5% ✓ all other at 2% ✓	2 at 20% 2 at 10% +all other at 5%	6 ✓	+3
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# Sustainability Workshop

- Held each year in late July or early August:
  - August 2011: Los Angeles
  - August 2012: Philadelphia
- Features speakers and panels presenting environmentally/energy efficient, economically sound and socially responsible developments and practices to advance transit's role in sustainability.
- Targeted toward general managers and senior staff, suppliers and consultants, and other supportive public agencies and interest groups.

# APTA Sustainability and Urban Design Standards (SUDS)



- *Transit Sustainability Guidelines*
  - *Quantifying and Reporting Transit Sustainability Metrics*
  - Economic metrics (in progress)
  - Social metrics (in progress)
- Climate change and greenhouse gas emissions
  - *Guidelines for Climate Action Planning*
  - *Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Transit*

# APTA Sustainability and Urban Design Standards (SUDS)



- Urban design guidelines
  - *Why Design Matters for Transit*
  - *Design of On-street Transit Stops and Access from Surrounding Areas*
- Land use and development
  - *Defining Transit Areas of Influence*
  - *Forming Partnerships to Promote Transit-Oriented Development and Joint Development*



# More information

[www.apta.com/sustainability](http://www.apta.com/sustainability)